(19) World Intellectual Property Organization

International Bureau





(43) International Publication Date 7 April 2005 (07.04.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 2005/030032 A3

(51) International Patent Classification7: C07K 14/00

G01N 33/53,

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2004/030772

(22) International Filing Date:

20 September 2004 (20.09.2004)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

60/505,317

22 September 2003 (22.09.2003) US

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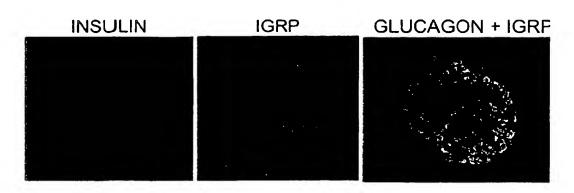
- (74) Agents: TRAVER, Robert, D. et al.; Sheridan Ross P.C., 1560 Broadway, Suite 1200, Denver, CO 80202-5141 (US).
- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM,
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

with international search report

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: USE OF ISLET GLUCOSE-6-PHOSPHATASE RELATED PROTEIN AS A DIAGNOSTIC TOOL AND THERAPEU-TIC TARGET FOR AUTOIMMUNE DIABETES



(57) Abstract: A method and compositions for detecting autoimmunity to islet glucose-6 phosphatase related protein (IGRP). Detection of IGRP autoantibodies alone, and in combination with other molecules such as the 65-kDa form of glutamate decarboxylase (GAD₆₅), insulin and insulin granule membrane proteins ICA512 (IA-2) and phogrin (IA2β) auto-antigens, provides an effective and reliable chemical assay for the diagnosis of autoimmune (type 1) diabetes. Additionally, this invention provides therapeutic regimens based on IGRP and related molecules for the amelioration of the diabetic clinical condition. Therefore, IGRP alone or in combination with other autioimmune diabetes associated antigens such as insulin, IA-2 and GAD₆₅, is useful in the prediction (diagnosis), treatment (therapy), and prevention (prophylaxis) of diabetes.



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- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.
- (88) Date of publication of the international search report:

23 June 2005